



CABINET

Report of: Councillor Matthew Lee
The Leader of the Council

Report to:	Cabinet
Date:	12 October 2017
Subject:	Matters referred to Cabinet by the Council or Overview and Scrutiny Committees since 29 August 2017 (LDS237)

Decision Proposal:	Report for information
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Matthew Lee, The Leader of the Council
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Approved for publication	Councillor Matthew Lee, the Leader of the Council Date: 3 October 2017

SUMMARY

This report highlights any matters referred to the Cabinet by the Council or the Council's overview and scrutiny committees since 29 August 2017, when the agenda for the Cabinet meeting held on 7 September 2017 was published, as set out in Appendices A to E.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Cabinet notes the contents of the report.

1. BACKGROUND TO REPORT

- 1.1** Under the Executive decision-making arrangements introduced as part of the Local Government Act 2000, Councils were required to create at least one scrutiny committee.
- 1.2** South Kesteven District Council currently has five overview and scrutiny committees that hold ordinary meetings every two months to discuss items within their remit. Additional meetings may be called if and when they are required.
- 1.3** Scrutiny Committees may not make decisions but can influence them by carrying out policy development work or reviewing decisions once they have been made. They can exercise their influence by making recommendations to the Cabinet.
- 1.4** Where an overview and scrutiny committee meets after the publication of this Cabinet agenda, where there is an outstanding recommendation related to the Cabinet meeting, an addendum will be provided at the meeting of the Cabinet.
- 1.5** Since the last meeting of the Cabinet no items have been referred to it by full Council, while both the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee have made recommendations to the Cabinet.

2. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1** This report has been introduced as a standing item on the agenda for meetings of the Cabinet. No other options were considered.

3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1** There are no resource implications arising from this report.

4. RISK AND MITIGATION

- 4.1** Risk has been considered as part of this report and no specific high risks were identified in its production.

5. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS (EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING etc.)

- 5.1** This report draws together the recommendations that have been made by all of the Council's overview and scrutiny committees. Where appropriate, impact analysis will be carried out as part of the development process and presented to Cabinet when it receives the final report on any topic detailed in the report.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None.

7. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

7.1 There are no financial comments arising from this report.

8. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

8.1 This report offers the Cabinet an opportunity to consider matters which have been raised by other Members at meetings of the Council and committees that operate within the executive function of the Council.

9. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Appendix B: Culture and Tourism Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Appendix C: Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Appendix D: Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Appendix E: Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None

Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on Tuesday 5 September 2017. The paperwork for this meeting can be viewed via the following link: <http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=628&MId=3439&Ver=4>

The items discussed at that meeting and any recommendations made by the committee are summarised below.

Revised Housing Strategy and Action Plan

Considerations:

- Report number HS2
- Early work undertaken by the policy development groups
- All-Member workshops
- Considerations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 July 2017
- Feedback from the Housing Strategy roundtable sessions
- Draft Housing Strategy
- Draft Action Plan
- Summary of approach to housing strategy engagement
- Issues raised by members during discussion

Recommendations:

- That Cabinet is asked to commit to a test/pilot scheme for some sort of modular housing as part of the housing strategy on land that the Council owns
- That the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet that the draft strategy and action plan is suitable for consultation

[Cabinet made its decision on this issue at its meeting on 7 September 2017]

Private Sector Housing Renewal – Independent Living

Considerations:

- Report number ENV666 and draft Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy for Independent Living
- Considerations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 July 2017
- An increase in funding for disabled facilities grants and changes to the way in which it is distributed
- Statistical information on housing adaptations carried out in 2016/17

Recommendations:

- That the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet that the draft Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy for independent living is approved for adoption

Armed Forces Community Covenant

Considerations:

- Report no 122
- The aims of the Armed Forces Community Covenant in Lincolnshire

Outcomes:

Recommendations:

- That the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing that the Council recommit to the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant

[This topic was the subject of an urgent non-key decision which was made by the Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing on 12 September 2017]

Community Cohesion

Considerations:

- Presentation by Councillors Judy Smith and Helen Powell

Outcomes:

- A suggestion to invite a speaker to attend the Committee and talk to members about community cohesion

Recommendations:

- That the Cabinet be asked if there is any budget for work in connection with community cohesion and that any work undertaken is to be done with longevity in mind, not just for a three or five year period

Community Fund Grant Scheme

Considerations:

- Report number CFM429
- An overview of the current process for receipt and determination of applications
- Feedback about the way the scheme has been running and the application process
- Guide to current criteria for the Community Fund

Outcomes:

- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the performance of the fund having regard to the objectives set out in 2015
- That a working group be convened to look at:
 - Tailoring the application process based on financial bandings in order to “fast track” smaller schemes
 - Consider whether the criteria for assessing applications/bids as set out in appendix a to report CFM429 is still fit for purpose
 - Reaffirm the role of the Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service to continue to administer part of the scheme on the Council’s behalf beyond the period of the current Service Level Agreement and for the Panel to continue to make awards on behalf of the Council
 - Agree that any decision about the future funding of the scheme be addressed as part of the annual budget framework process
 - Where appropriate to make recommendations via the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet on the future management, administration and funding of the Community Fund Scheme

Recommendations:

- That the composition of the Member Panel for determining applications should be made up of the five Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen or in their absence, the Vice-Chairmen
- That in principle, if the Community Fund for 2018/19 continues, that a proportion of the funding be given to Councillors for distribution individually subject to the issue being looked at by a working group of the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

[This item is currently scheduled for Cabinet decision at its meeting on 9 November 2017]

Culture and Tourism Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Culture and Tourism Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on Thursday 14 September 2017. The paperwork for this meeting can be viewed via the following link: <http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=629&MId=3492&Ver=4>

The items discussed at that meeting and any recommendations made by the committee are summarised below.

Cultural Strategy

Considerations:

- Report number SLPD012

Outcomes:

- A workshop meeting held on 14 September 2017 following the close of the Culture and Tourism Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting
- Feedback from the workshop will form the basis of further discussion at the Culture and Tourism Overview and Scrutiny Committee's meeting on 16 November 2017

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on Tuesday 26 September 2017. The paperwork for this meeting can be viewed via the following link:

<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=630&MId=3486&Ver=4>

The items discussed at that meeting and any recommendations made by the committee are summarised below.

Big Clean Update

Considerations:

- Report number ENV670
- Budget information circulated during the meeting
- An overview of feedback received

Outcomes:

- The Committee noted the positive progress to date and supported future work to develop a South Kesteven Street Standards based on the lessons learned from the Big Clean Project

Dog Fouling

Considerations:

- Report ENV665
- The number of incidences reported to South Kesteven District Council
- Feedback from a small survey of parish councils on the frequency with which the subject was raised
- Changes in legislation meaning that from October 2017 Dog Control Orders will be replaced with Public Spaces Protection Orders
- An overview of the Council's current response

Recommendations:

- The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends that the Cabinet look at the following courses of action in relation to dog fouling but that the priority of the Cabinet should be numbers 1 and 2 as noted below:
 1. To increase the number of bins at hot spot locations.
 2. To introduce a new public space protection order for the whole of South Kesteven to require dog walkers to have with them a receptacle to pick up dog waste and if they fail to produce one on request to receive a fixed penalty notice.

3. National initiatives – Sign up to Keep Britain Tidy and take part in their national campaigns.
4. Local initiatives – free dog poo bags, school involvement, spray paint stencils. These have all had limited success in other areas but ultimately the responsibility lies with the dog owner.
5. Continue as is, target patrols based on local intelligence, encourage reporters to provide details of offenders and progress on this basis.
6. Maintain education – signage, letters, leaflets etc.
7. Positive media to remind/educate – this has worked particularly well with success we have had with fly tipping and littering with significant public support.
8. To review current enforcement programme in order to provide an increased enforcement regime, aiming for this to be either cost neutral or generate an income stream from FPN income. In order for this to be a realistic and viable option for an external provider this would also include other offences where a FPN would apply such as littering.
9. Review the existing dog control orders and modify within accordingly within the new legislation with fines set at a level to maximise income and deter offenders.
10. Maintain a watching brief on those Authorities what have implemented a requirement for all dog owners within their area to register their dogs DNA on a local authority data base.

Street Littering Enforcement

Considerations:

- Report ENV668
- Possible enforcement options to address street littering
- Practice used by other local authorities

Recommendations:

- The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet the following:
 1. To explore the options in detail for the engagement of an external company or third party to issue fixed penalty notices for littering and other associated environmental offences throughout the District
 2. That collaborative options with other Councils are explored
 3. To review in house options for enforcement

Trade Waste

Considerations:

- A verbal update was given on trade waste

Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee is next scheduled to meet on Wednesday 4 October 2017. The paperwork for this meeting can be viewed via the following link:

<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=631&MId=3445&Ver=4>

Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday 27 September 2017. The paperwork for this meeting can be viewed via the following link: <http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=632&MId=3515&Ver=4>

The items discussed at that meeting and any recommendations made by the committee are summarised below.

Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK): Broadband rollout

Considerations:

- Presentation from Steve Brookes (BDUK)
- Current position of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme
- The status of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme in South Kesteven
- The future of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme

Housing in Rural Areas

Considerations:

- Report BMH123
- Proposed workplan listing topics for scrutiny associated with housing in rural areas
- Feedback from two housing summits
- Work being undertaken on the review of the homelessness strategy

Outcomes:

- The Committee adopted the work programme presented in BMH123
- That a joint meeting should be held with the Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the issues related to rural housing, specifically social housing in rural areas

Feedback from the Rural Town Planning Institute Conference

Considerations:

- Verbal update feeding back from the Rural Town Planning Institute Conference

Work Programme

Recommendation

- The Committee requested that health and wellbeing be included within the remit of the Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee